

## Message Text

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43

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 EB-11 TRSE-00 INT-08 L-03 OPIC-12

AID-20 DRC-01 /101 W

----- 083693

R 122059Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 926

INFO USDOC WASHDC

US DEPT OF AGRICULTURE WASHDC

AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LIMA

AMCONSUL SAO PAULO

UNCLAS LA PAZ 5587

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, EFIN, BDIS, ETRD, BL

SUBJ: BOLIVIAN COTTON BURNS

REFS: (A) LA PAZ A-96 OF MAY 4, 1973 (NOTAL); (B) LA PAZ 5368.

1. FIRE CONSUMED AT LEAST NINE THOUSAND BALES OF SANTA CRUZ COTTON ON SEPTEMBER 11, ACCORDING TO REPORTS RECEIVED BY LA PAZ OFFICES OF BOTH BANK OF AMERICA AND FIRST NATIONAL CITY BANK FROM THEIR SANTA CRUZ OFFICES. THESE REPORTS WERE CORRABORATED BY THE LA PAZ PRESS OF SEPTEMBER 12.

2. ACCORDING TO "EL DIARIO," THE FIRE OCCURRED IN THE COTTON PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION STORAGE AREA AT THE HUARACACHI RAILROAD STATION, FOUR KILOMETERS EAST OF SANTA CRUZ. OF THE 13,000 BALES IN STORAGE, SEVEN TO TWELVE THOUSAND WERE AFFECTED, FOR A LOSS ESTIMATED AT \$US 3.5 MILLION. ALL OF THE COTTON WAS AWAITING EXPORT THROUGH BRAZILIAN PORTS. CAUSES OF THE FIRE ARE BEING INVESTIGATED.

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3. "PRESENCIA," ON THE OTHER HAND, FLATLY REPORTED LOSS OF

ONLY 9,000 BALES, VALUED AT \$US 2.5 MILLION, ALL OF WHICH WAS INSURED. WITNESSES REPORTED THAT THE FIRE BROKE OUT AT ABOUT 10:30 A.M. AND WAS SPREAD RAPIDLY BY HEAVY WINDS. COTTON WAS SCHEDULED FOR SHIPMENT TO SANTOS AND BUENOS AIRES.

4. LA PAZ BANKERS ALSO QUOTED 9,000 BALES DESTROYED.

5. SOME TEN DAYS TO TWO WEEKS AGO, A SIMILAR FIRE WAS REPORTED TO HAVE DESTROYED ABOUT 350 BALES OF COTTON, VALUED AT ABOUT \$US 80,000. A LA PAZ BANKER SAID HE UNDERSTANDS INSURANCE CONTRACTS FOR COTTON ARE STANDARD AND CALL FOR PAYMENT ON THE BASIS OF "CURRENT MARKET VALUE". THE BANKER SAID HE HAD BEEN INFORMED LOSSES INCURRED FROM THE EARLIER FIRE WERE PAID AT \$US 65 PER HUNDRED WEIGHT.

6. THE NAME OF THE INSUROR HAS NOT BEEN GIVEN.

7. TO THE BEST OF OUR KNOWLEDGE, THE WORD "AWSON" HAS NOT BEEN USED IN CONNECTION WITH EITHER FIRE.

8. REF A ESTIMATED THE VALUE OF BOLIVIA 1973 COTTON CROP. REF B WAS THE MOST RECENT OF OUR REPORTS ON BOLIVIA'S CURRENT FAILURE TO FULFILL COTTON FUTURES CONTRACTS.  
BREWING

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** COTTON, FIRES, FIRE INSURANCE  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 12 SEP 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1973LAPAZ05587  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** LA PAZ  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
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**Legacy Key:** link1973/newtext/t19730940/aaaabdlo.tel  
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**Office:** ACTION ARA  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** (A) LA PAZ A-96 OF MAY 4, 1973 (NOTA, L); (B) LA PAZ 5368.  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** boyleja  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 07 SEP 2001  
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30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
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**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** BOLIVIAN COTTON BURNS  
**TAGS:** EAGR, EFIN, BDIS, ETRD, BL  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005